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travel. In a little over a decade we have seen four international wars, countless international altercations, and in the same period a steady pressure from all sides for arbitration and a peaceful settlement of international differences. The innovations of modern warfare, and the recommendation of the Peace Conferences have both made for a modification of many of the principles of international law. A new era in the history of national relations and international dealings seems to be setting in; an era in which air-ships, submarines, long-distance projectiles and wireless are setting aside the barriers of nations, and opening up new areas of activity. The most recent Conventions, and agreements concerning the conduct of hostilities and the procedure of neutrals are reprinted in full as appendices to the text, and rescued from the newspaper oblivion which threatens those events which are recent enough to be almost remembered, and not old enough to be history.

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There is a confused impression in nearly all Northern minds, and in many Southern, as to the motive which drove Virginia into secession. Some writers have attributed that momentous act to the Virginians' desire to preserve the institution of slavery because necessary to the profitable working of their plantations or because insuring them an additional income by the sale of their surplus bondsmen. Some have attributed it to the outraged feeling caused by the intemperate crusades of the Abolitionists; some to the threatening and aggressive conduct of the Republican party; some to the State's complete alienation from the Union, which she had done so much to found and extend. In the work under review\* Mr. Beverley B. Munford, a distinguished lawyer and publicist of Virginia, has examined into the soundness of these several suppositions, and by a fund of information gathered from original sources demonstrates how entirely inadequate all are, whether taken singly or in combination, to afford the true explanation of that fateful movement. Why, then, did Virginia secede? asks Mr. Munford. She seceded because she was summoned by Lincoln's call for troops to aid in the coercion of her sister States of the South—a step that would have ap-

\* "Virginia's Attitude towards Slavery and Secession." By Beverley B. Munford. New York and London: Longmans, Green & Co., 1909.

peared to her to be a subversion of all those principles upon which, in her view, the Union itself was founded. Have the people the right to determine for themselves their political destiny? Are the just powers of government to be measured by the consent of the governed? "These were the questions," says Mr. Munford, "which, carrying their own answers, impelled the Virginian opponents of coercion in 1861 to stand, as they believed, for the political and ethical principles which the flag symbolized, rather than for the flag itself." Mr. Munford's volume possesses far more than a local and sectional importance, for its treatment of its general thesis is so comprehensive in substance and so broadly patriotic in spirit—it deals with questions that reach over so constantly into the domain of national events and influences—that from start to finish the volume appeals irresistibly to every citizen of the Union who is interested in the most momentous era of our national history since the close of the Revolution.

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One's first feeling in reading the essays of Miss Jane Addams, published under the title "The Spirit of Youth and the City Streets,"\* is how great our wealth and benefit is in having Miss Addams. Her work at Hull House is known the world over, and to those who have regarded the condition of the city poor as hopeless she is a powerful force. She feels as much as she thinks, and it is her feeling that makes her a mine of wise suggestion and practical advice. It takes no small insight to discern that what appears to be squalor, misery, foolishness, crime, is in many instances a revolt against an order which youth feels to be unsympathetic and alien. Her little book cries, *Awake!* There are no ideals for which man is fighting and dying. Youth demands ideals! Youth will not bow down to a strange god; it is blindly waging war against him, a war without a leader, a mob fired by a passion to be free; the people are demanding a banner they can love, are calling for one who can order the motley mass into a pageant singing hymns of joy. The noble words of the prophets of freedom are as chaff, the magic wand of the inventor has been wielded in vain, unless man knows him whom he serves. It is the glory of youth that it has not forgotten;

\* *The Spirit of Youth and the City Streets.* By Jane Addams, Hull House, Chicago: The Macmillan Company, 1909.